THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The works of modernisations and providing essential infrastructural facilities are mainly charged to Plan head "Passenger Amenities". The allocation/expenditure of funds under this plan head during the last three years is as under.

(Fig. in crore of rupees)

Year	Allocation (Budget Estimates)	Expenditure
2003-04	205.00	181.19
2004-05	215.05	222.72
2005-06	222.15	256.23 (Prov.)

However, the allocation during the last 3 years for stations in Delhi Area are as under:

Year	Allocation
2003-04	Rs. 17.41 cr.
2004-05	Rs. 26.93 cr.
2005-06	Rs. 28.09 cr.

In addition, improvements at stations are also carried out as a part of Doublings, Traffic Facility works, Gauge Conversions, Computerisation etc. under relevant Plan Heads.

Integral coach factory at Perambur

547. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Integral Coach Factory at Perambur in Chennai set-up 50 years ago produce less number of coaches than the factory set up at Kapurthala in Punjab recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to produce more number of coaches by coach factory at perambur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Installed production capacity of Integral Coach Factory (ICF) is 1000 coaches per annum. The number of coaches manufactured depends on installed capacity and product mix. ICF is manufacturing more than 1000 coaches with varied mix as per requirement

of Railways. Production of ICF is marginally lower compared to Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala as this unit has more number of Electric Multiple Units (EMUs) and Diesel Multiple Units (DMUs) in its product mix.

(c) A work has been sanctioned in 2006-07 for augmentation of capacity for manufacture of 1500 coaches per year at ICF, Chennai anticipating the future increase in requirement of coaches.

Tatkal reservation of tickets

†*548. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Tatkal Reservation of Tickets' scheme of Railways is under the grip of touts;

(b) the details of the measures taken by Government to break the network of said touts at the railway stations; and

(c) whether Government have made any arrangement to refund the money of those passengers in the train itself who alongwith other passengers reserve their seats under single ticket but decide to cancel or postpone their journey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No case of rampant corruption in revised Tatkal Scheme has come to notice. However, to avoid misuse of this scheme various steps have been taken which includes enhancing the Tatkal charges, issuing of Waiting List tickets, keeping the reservations under Tatkal scheme open upto preparation of charts etc. Checks are also conducted from time to time check malpractices in reservation including Tatkal Reservation Scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

Recruitment of Rail Hostesses

†*549. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to recruit rail hostesses on the lines of air hostesses; and

(b) if so, the criteria for their appointments and what would be their service conditions?

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†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.